

**Arms in possession of former Rulers**

1486. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 762 on 10th May, 1972 regarding the surrender of arms by former Rulers and state :

(a) whether Government have by now procured from the ex-Rulers a complete inventory of the arms in their possession; and

(b) if so, Government's decision regarding surrender, disposal or regularisation of such arms ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) and (b). Complete inventories of arms held by the ex-Rulers and the ex-exemptee members of their families were under collection by the State Governments, but the same have not yet been received by the Government from all the States. However, the Government of India have since taken a decision regarding this matter, the salient features of which are as follows:—

(i) All ex-Rulers and ex-exemptee members of their families are required to obtain regular licences for the possession of arms and ammunition. As regards the number of arms and ammunition for which a licence may be given, the matter has been left to the discretion of the licencing authority as in the case of other members of the public.

(ii) The Government of India have also decided that where a former ruler or exemptee member of his family have held more than 3 weapons under the exemption in the past, he may be granted a licence on application for 1 rifle, 1 gun, 1 revolver/pistol as a matter of course, and request for any extra weapon or weapons may be considered strictly on the basis of proved need. The ex-Rulers and ex-exemptee members of their families should be allowed the same concession of free of fee licence as is at present available under the Arms Rules to other ex-exemptee members of the public under item No. 7 of the table appended to GSR 991 dated 13th July, 1962.

(iii) It has also been decided that each former ruler or exemptee member of his family may be allowed to retain 1 prohibited bore weapon of any category, subject to the condition that such

weapon has already been held by the ex-exemptee in the past under the exemption, and the concession of retaining the prohibited bore weapon should be personal to him/her, and it shall extinguish automatically on his/her demise.

(iv) As regards the obsolete and un-serviceable arms, the same may be retained by the ex-Rulers etc. provided such arms are excluded from the licencing requirement under section 45(c) of the Arms Act, 1959. However, the State Government may impose a condition that the retention of any weapon without licence under section 45(c) of the Arms Act would be allowed only, if a certificate is obtained from the licencing authority certifying that the weapon or weapons intended to be so retained fall under the purview of section 45(c) of the Arms Act, and consequently excluded from the licencing requirement. Subject to the production of such a certificate, the Government of India have no objection to the sale or transfer of such obsolete and un-serviceable weapons by the former rulers to other parties for consideration or otherwise.

(v) In order to ensure that arms falling under the definition of 'Antiquity' may not be exported out of India under the cover of section 45(c) of the Arms Act, it has been clarified that there is already a prohibition on the export of weapons falling Antiquity under the Antiquity's (Export Control) Act, 1947 and sub-rule (2) of rule 33 of the Arms Rules, 1962 and that the every application for the export of firearms shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Director General of Archeology of the Central Government to the effect that arms intended to be exported do not fall within the definition of 'Antiquity'. In addition, the applicant has also to furnish a certificate from the licencing authority of the place from where the weapons are intended to be exported, certifying that the weapons intended to be exported do not fall *Inter alia* in the category of 'Antiquity'.

(vi) The former rulers and ex-exemptee members of their families be allowed a period of 3 months effective from the date of issue of orders, allowing them to apply for necessary possession licence in respect of arms and ammunition in their possession, or dispose of

by sale or gift etc. in accordance with the provisions of the Arms Act governing such sale. In respect of the firearms and ammunition for which a former ruler or an ex-exemptee member of his family is unable to secure a licence from the appropriate licencing authority or to dispose of the arms, he should on the expiry of the prescribed period of three months deposit all such weapons with him without unnecessary delay either with the nearest Police Station or with a licensed dealer etc in accordance with the provisions of section 21 of the Arms Act, 1959. Further disposal of such deposited weapons would thereafter be regulated in accordance with the normal process of law as provided for in section 21 of the said Act read with rule 46 of the Arms Rules, 1962 framed thereunder.

#### Issue of Industrial Licences

1487. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:  
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE

AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Industrial Licences issued from January, 1972 to June, 1972, state-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to remove regional disparity in granting industrial licences?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) A statement is attached

(b) Every attempt is made by Government to consider applications for industrial licences from all States as expeditiously as possible, taking due note of the merits of each case. (Special efforts are made, however, to give priority consideration to proposals for the grant of industrial licences pertaining to industrially backward areas, for which Government have announced a series of concession and incentives also).

#### STATEMENT

S. No.	State	N.U.	S.E.	N.A.	COB	Shift-	N.A.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	3	3	1	..	..	12
2.	Arunachal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3.	Assam	5	..	..	..	..	..	5
4.	Bihar	1	1	..	1	..	..	3
5.	Chandigarh	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6.	Delhi	1	1	1	..	..	..	3
7.	Goa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8.	Gujarat	6	5	5	11	..	..	27
9.	Haryana	5	2	5	3	..	..	15
10.	Himachal Pradesh	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12.	Kerala	3	1	2	..	..	..	6
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
14.	Maharashtra	8	14	19	15	..	..	56
15.	Manipur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16.	Meghalaya	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17.	Mizoram	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18.	Mysore	6	4	4	3	..	..	17
19.	Nagaland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..